

Murray Arts Advisory Board
Minutes for July 21, 2009

Attendance: Judy Baxendale, Mary Black, Mildred Horton, John Madsen, Jared Shaver, Jen Davies, Mary Ann Kirk (staff).

Excused: Elaine Judd

1. Minutes for June 16, 2009 were approved as written. Mildred said she was having trouble opening the attachments sent via email. Mary Ann will try to save it in some different formats. New board member Jen Davies was introduced.
2. Staff report
 - a. Upcoming events were reviewed - Nunsense, Grease, Polynesia. It has been somewhat difficult running two shows back to back.
 - b. Beauty and the Beast expenses was \$18,500 with tickets sales at \$19,750. About 3500 people attend. Jared thought we should invite the city boards again next year. But it would be good to do it at the beginning of the run so they can share their excitement with others. We rained out partially the first night and one full night on Saturday. We waited until 9 pm to start the show on the last night but we were able to run the show.
 - c. Mary Ann will check with the groups who are sponsoring the last few shows. She will send thank you notes to volunteers providing comp tickets to a show of their choice. She will exclude Polynesia because it will be too crowded but those attending will be split up over several nights so it shouldn't overload any one night.
 - d. Mildred and Mary Ann met with the Utah Arts Council. They are making the granting process easier. They are providing some publications and in-service. Mary Ann has complained about the Change Leader program which is a week long. She didn't like the requirement to attend the training in order to get another grant. Jared suggested we send a board member.
 - e. The county is currently evaluating their services to determine where duplication exists. They seem to be more willing to allow local cities to run and operate programs and services. This will help us with the performing arts center.
 - f. Mary Ann is meeting with Holladay Arts Council next week. The Utah Watercolor Society will meet with us next month. The county has also given us the names of two theater companies, Stage Right and Utah Contemporary Theatre, who are looking for a home. Mary Ann will talk to them about their needs. Theater is going to be tough because there is so much rehearsal time involved and so many groups who produce theater.
3. The school district has sent a letter to the city asking for input about any needs related to a new junior high school. Mary Ann has given some feedback to Doug Hill to encourage our participation in the theater design to meet both school and community functions and include a dance facility to meet the needs of the community ed dance program. It makes

more sense to include it with the junior high and allow them to use it for both school and community ed dance programs. She would also like to keep the option open to develop a shared performing arts space if the performing arts center is not moving forward in other preferred locations. A shared use would have to be carefully managed. Jared suggested it would be better to have the city manage it.

4. Mary Ann asked the board how they want to proceed with encouraging arts in the schools. Two years ago we provided booklets to all kindergarten parents about how to encourage their children to introduce their children to the arts and sat at booths at back to school nights. We could do this at the Steve James parent nights in October. Board members suggested we educate parents about where the funding is coming for the Steve James program and other programs. Jared said that many parents don't realize that the city is sponsoring many of these arts-in-education programs. He suggested we alternate the focus each year between providing resources for parents and educating parents about the programs we are offering. Board members suggested we could have the booklet for parents available, but prepare a handout for everyone about the things we offer each year. Mary Ann usually presents a handout to the school board and the principals. Mildred thinks the parents should see this also. Jen said that many parents don't see the home notes. We need to think of other ways to communicate to parents.
5. The 2009-2010 season was reviewed and the proposed arts-in-education activities. This could be adapted as a handout for the parent nights. We will discuss the format to introduce this information to the parents and make assignments next month.
6. Auditions for the National Anthem were completed and the schedule will be distributed this week.